

Contributions to a knowledge of the COLEOPTERA of Madagascar ;
by CHAS. O. WATERHOUSE.

The British Museum has recently acquired a small but most interesting collection of Coleoptera from Madagascar. The specimens were collected in the neighbourhood of Fianarantsoa, the capital of the Betsileo country, directly south of Antananarivo, by the Rev. W. Deans Cowan. Besides several new species of *Cetoniidae*, an account of which has already appeared (Ent. Mo. Mag. September, 1878), the collection contained several examples of *Arrhythmus* and *Logisticus*, remarkable new genera of Longicorns described by myself in a paper read before the Entomological Society at a recent meeting. There are also very numerous specimens of *Artelida* (*Toxotus*) *sericeus*, Guérin, showing great variation in size (7 to $11\frac{1}{2}$ lines); many of the examples have brownish elytra.

CARABIDÆ.

Drypta iris, Castln., Hist. Nat. i, p. 34.

This species is only known to me from description, and I am in doubt as to whether the specimen sent by Mr. Cowan is the same. It differs in coloration; the head and thorax very strongly, irregularly and rather thickly punctured; the thorax is two-thirds longer than broad, subparallel in front, gently constricted behind, there is an extremely fine median line. The elytra are very strongly striate, and the striae are very strongly punctured, the interstices are moderately convex (subcostiform towards the sides) microscopically transversely coriaceous, with a stray puncture here and there; the apex of each is obliquely truncate, the external angle of the truncature is a distinct tooth. The underside and the legs are aeneous. The head and thorax are coppery, the elytra uniform purple.

A very distinct species, not only on account of the colour, but the almost impunctate interstices readily separate it from its allies.

MELOLONTHIDÆ.

Enthora polita, n. sp.

Ovalis, nigra, nitidissima; capite thorace scutelloque nigro-cyaneis, vel æneis, cum elytris subtilissime sat crebre punctulatis. Long. 9-10 $\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Oblong oval, very convex and shining. All the upper surface moderately thickly and extremely finely punctured, the punctures having in the middle a minute whitish scale, only visible with a strong magnifying power. The abdomen is sparingly punctured in the middle, closely at the sides.

The antennæ have the club composed of seven lamellæ in both sexes, but they are much shorter in the female than in the male, and are of unequal length. The anterior tibiæ are much narrower in the male than the female; the tarsi in the female are very short.

This species differs from that which I have determined to be *E. chlorodera*, Blanch., in being a little longer, with much finer punctuation, and in having the elytra much more distinctly angular at the sides when viewed laterally, and the abdomen is much less punctured.

A considerable number of examples of both sexes.

Parhycolus clypeatus, n. sp.

Elongatus, sat convexus, nitidus, piceus; clypeo plicâ arcuatâ transeunti, post plicam evidenter punctato, fronte discrete subtiliter punctulatâ; thorace longitudine $\frac{1}{3}$ latiori, nigro-piceo, sat crebre subtilissime punctulato, angulis anticis obtusis, posticis rotundatis, lateribus arcuatis longe ciliatis; scutello elongato triangulari, lævi, nigro-piceo; elytris thorace parum latioribus, at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ longioribus, sat crebre distincte punctatis, suturâ lævi; pygidio crebre fortiter punctato; metasterno medio leviter impresso, lævi. Long. 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ lin., lat. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

This species much resembles *P. madagascariensis*, but is much narrower, and the form of the clypeus and claws present almost generic differences. The forehead is quite simple, without any transverse ridge behind; the line separating the clypeus from the head is well marked, nearly straight; between this line and the anterior margin there is a distinct plait or thickening, the space between this plait and the anterior margin is deeply

hollowed, the margins are thickened and reflexed. The antennæ have the third joint elongate, the fourth strongly transverse, a little produced, the fifth to tenth forming an oblong club. The tarsi are long and slender, the claw joint is suddenly bent beyond the middle, the basal part furnished below with a blade similar to that seen in *Achelyna*.

In *Pachycolus* the club of the antennæ is five jointed, and the claws are strongly bifid.

TENEBRIONIDÆ.

(NYCTEROPINÆ).

Dolichoderus dimidiatus, n. sp.

Capite thoraceque supra nigris opacis; elytris læte cupreo-æneis nitidissimis fere lævibus, apice ipso cyaneo; corpore subtus nigro-æneo nitido; antennis pedibusque cupreo-piceis. Long. $8\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Head and thorax dull black, the thick and extremely fine punctuation only seen with great difficulty; head rather broad quadrate, the anterior angles of the epistoma shining blackish-æneous. Thorax one-fourth longer than broad, scarcely narrowed anteriorly, subparallel sided, the anterior angles not prominent, the fine anterior margin and the thickened posterior margin shining blackish-æneous. Elytra at the base a trifle narrower than the base of the thorax, acuminate at the apex, convex, impressed at the suture, coppery-æneous; a powerful magnifying glass reveals some very close and excessively fine punctuation; the extreme apex is not produced.

(CNODALONINÆ).

Camaria violaceipennis, n. sp.

Niger; capite thoraceque opacis, planiusculis, elytris convexis, basi thorace paulo latioribus postice paulo ampliatis, violaceis vel purpureis fortiter striatis, interstitiis bene convexis subtiliter creberrime punctulatis; corpore subtus pedibusque nitidis, tibiis piceis. Long. 15 lin.

Head and thorax dull black, very closely and extremely finely punctured; the latter about one-third broader than long, slightly narrower in front, straight at the sides, the anterior angles very little prominent, blunt, the base gently bisinuate. Elytra con-

vex, purple, (with violet reflections), a little broader than the thorax, more ample behind, narrowed at the apex, the shoulders rounded.

In this species (and in *C. chalconota*, Klug) the mesosternum has the excavation in the form of a V not a short U as the American species appear to have; the first and second abdominal segments are relatively longer and flatter and the intercoxal projection is broader.

CURCULIONIDÆ.

(CYPHINÆ).

Stigmatrachelus alternans, n. sp.

Piceo-niger, dense pallide fulvo-squamosus; fronte medio foveolatâ, rostro carinâ longitudinali nitidâ, oculis prominentibus; thorace lineis tribus nitidis, medianâ canaliculatâ; elytris basi thorace vix duplo latioribus triplo longioribus, convexis, fossato-striatis, fasciâ ante medium interstitiisque alternatis ante apicem denudatis nitidis, guttis oblongis pallidioribus in interstitiis alternatis post medium positis. Long. 5 lin.

This species belongs to the group with prominent eyes, and compared with its allies has them small. The rostrum has a well marked shining carina, continued on the forehead by a deep shining fovea. Thorax one-fourth broader than long, obliquely narrowed in front of the middle, with three longitudinal shining black lines, the middle one longitudinally channelled. Elytra convex, with the shoulders angular but not much prominent, somewhat parallel sided, a trifle broader at the posterior two-thirds, very deeply punctate striate, the punctures very large, the first and third interstices are a little elevated; there is an irregular transverse fascia a little before the middle denuded of scales (the second and fourth interstices are also denuded at the base), immediately below this fascia there is a transverse fascia of nearly white oblong spots on the alternate interstices, the first, third, fifth and seventh interstices are also without scales below the above mentioned whitish spots.

Stigmatrachelus humeralis, n. sp.

Dense brunneo-griseo squamosus, opacus; elytris basi thorace duplo latioribus postice paulo ampliatis, maculâ basali fasciâque undulatâ post medium fusco-brunneis obscure flavo cinctis, humeris prominentibus acutis. Long. $5\frac{1}{2}$ lin., lat. $2\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

This is a very broad species, nearly the form of *S. ornatus*, with very prominent acute shoulders. Dull grey-brown, with a spot in the middle of the base of each elytron, and an undulating fascia a little behind the middle chocolate-brown, the spot and the fascia both narrowly bordered with dull yellow, the apex of the elytra is also of this obscure yellow colour. Eyes very slightly prominent; forehead with a narrow mesial channel. Thorax rather narrow, one-fifth broader than long, a little more narrowed in front than behind, with a fine mesial shining ridge on the disc, and two shining punctures on each side. Scutellum shining brown. Elytra at least twice as broad as the thorax, one-fourth longer than broad, very convex posteriorly, punctate striate.

Madagascar (Crossley).

CERAMBYCIDÆ.

Sagridola flavicollis, n. sp.

Picea, griseo-pilosa, opaca, antennis brevibus tenuibus; thorace scutello pygidioque dense flavo-tomentosis; elytris basi thorace $\frac{2}{3}$ latioribus, et $2\frac{3}{4}$ longioribus, brunneis, singulis postice bene angustatis, paulo divergentibus, ad apicem truncatis, sutura flavo-marginata; femoribus basi apiceque brunneis. Long. $6\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Antennæ slender, about as long as the elytra. Eyes elongate ovate, entire, widely separated. Thorax scarcely longer than broad, convex, densely clothed with yellow tomentum, constricted at the anterior margin, slightly compressed laterally, subparallel behind. Scutellum narrow triangular. Elytra light brown, separately very much attenuated at the apex which is truncate; the sides obliquely deflexed, the suture is bordered with yellow for the posterior two-thirds. The basal segment of the abdomen and the pygidium are yellow. The femora are dentate below, near the apex.

MASTODODERA.

I am unaware with whom it originated, but it seems to be a generally received notion, followed even by Thomson and Lacordaire, that *M. lateralis*, Guérin, with fulvous elytra and black sutural stripe, is only the male of *M. nedicollis*, Klug, with fulvous elytra and black base. The two species are quite distinct, and the sexes of both are in the British Museum. The males have the eleventh antennal joint elongate and constricted

before the apex, indicating a twelfth joint; the female has this same joint shorter and simple. The male organ is oblong, broad and flat. The female ovipositor is elongate, acuminate at the apex.

LAMIIDÆ.

*Leucographus** *variegatus*, n. sp.

Crassus, ater, velutinus, sabuloso-variegatus; elytris tuberculis obtusis duobus juxta scutellum humerisque nitidis. Long. 8-10½ lin.

Build somewhat that of *Eumimetes*, but broader and more robust. Head black, with a fine sandy line between the antennæ, and an oblique one behind each eye. Thorax with a moderately strong tubercle at the side, a small one on each side of the disc, black, with a sandy stripe in the middle and a broader one on each side of the disc, there are also a few irregular spots. Elytra two-fifths broader than the thorax, gently narrowed posteriorly, slightly flattened on the back, obtuse at the apex, with two approximate tubercles close to the scutellum, slightly elevated at the shoulders, densely clothed with sandy tomentum, irregularly dotted with black, with an irregular black patch on each side behind the middle (dotted with sandy), a flexuous black band beyond this, and a black spot just before the apex. Antennæ and legs sandy-white, the apices of the third to eleventh joints of the antennæ, the inside of the femora, the apex of the tibiæ, the apex of the second and fourth joints of the tarsi and the entire third joint black. Body beneath black, dotted at the sides with sandy-white.

I place this species provisionally in the genus *Leucographus*, but I would point out that the antennæ differ in being simple, not fringed at the apex, the joints gradually diminishing towards the apex.

The male has the fifth segment of the abdomen truncate at the apex. The female has this segment rather deeply impressed at the apex.

* Waterhouse, Cistula Entomologica, ii, p. 295 (June, 1878).